

Fox Lake Wildlife Management Area

2004 Small Mammal Trapping and Species Inventory Report

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP)

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Fox Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is a 1,545-acre parcel located approximately 50 miles northeast of Glendive, MT and 25 miles west of Sidney. The area is gently rolling, with several smooth valleys and some steeper hills near Fox Creek. The WMA is generally treeless and semi-arid. Fox Creek, which supplied the lake, is intermittent, and the 800-acre Lake was formed only by damming the creek in the 1930's.

Over half of the vegetative cover on the WMA is grassland, with Grama and Buffalo grass predominant. The remainder of the area is divided between marshland and commercial wheat. The WMA is open to the public for hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing.

Findings: 84 Captures of 12 Species

- Small Mammal Trapping Lines
 - 81 captures of 11 species
- Large Fox Trap
 - 1 capture of 1 species
- Funnel Trap
 - 2 captures of 1 species

Table 1. Trapline/Trapsite and Habitat Type

Location #	Name	Habitat
1	Line 1	Grassland
2	Line 2	Riparian/Lakebed
3	Line 3	Riparian
4	Line 4	Riparian/Lakebed
5	Line 5	Grassland
6	Line 6	Riparian
7	Line 7	Hayland/Crested Wheatgrass
8	Line 8	Hayland
9	Line 9	Grassland
10	Fox 1	Shrub Riparian
11	Funnel 1	Pond Riparian
12	Fox 2	Riparian



Purple Coneflower



Aster

Table 2. Capture Summary

Species Captured	Trapline										Funnel	Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Tiger Salamander								1			2	3
Plains Spadefoot	1			3								4
Savannah Sparrow							1					1
Thirteen-Lined Ground Squirrel	1						2					3
Northern Pocket Gopher					1							1
Deer Mouse	20	4	2	8	7	2		1	3			47
Meadow Vole		2		2		2						6
House Mouse				1								1
Meadow Jumping Mouse			8									8
Common Raccoon										1		1
Long-Tailed Weasel	4											4
Unknown Shrew		3		2								5
Total Captures	26	9	10	16	8	4	3	2	3	1	2	84



Meadow Jumping Mouse



Plains Spadefoot Toad



Long-Tailed Weasel



Prairie Vole

Table 3. Trap Summary

Trap Type	Trapline									Trap	Total	Captures/ 100 Trap Nights	Number of Species
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Nights	Captures		
Snap, small (victor)	44	48	46	43	47	47	47	10	39	371	11	3	4
Snap, med (museum special)	31	37	33	31	30	33	31	5	34	265	35	13.2	5
Snap, large (rat)	10	10	9	10	10	10	9	2	8	78	1	1.3	1
Cage, small (sherman)	50	49	44	48	50	49	50	10	38	388	14	3.6	3
Cage, med (skunk)	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	2	8	79	2	2.5	1
Pitfall	25	25	19	25	25	23	25	5	20	192	18	9.4	7
Total Trap Nights	169	179	161	167	172	172	172	34	147	1373			
Total Captures	26	9	10	16	8	4	3	2	3	81			
Captures/100 Trap Nights	15.4	5	6.2	9.6	4.7	2.3	1.7	5.9	2	6.1			
Number of Species	4	3	2	5	2	2	2	2	1				

Table 4. Trapsite Summary

Trapsite	Trap		Captures/100 Trap Nights	Number of Species
	Nights	Captures		
Cage, large	9	1	11.1	1
Funnel Trap	5	2	40	1

Table 4. Miscellaneous Species Observed

Woodhouse's Toad
Eared Grebe
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
American Wigeon
Northern Harrier
Ring-necked Pheasant
Sharp-tailed Grouse
American Coot
Killdeer
American Avocet
Greater Yellowlegs
Willet
Marbled Godwit
Wilson's Phalarope
Franklin's Gull
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
Barn Swallow
Brown Thrasher
Loggerhead Shrike
Lark Bunting
Red-winged Blackbird
Western Meadowlark
Brown-headed Cowbird
Red Fox
Mule Deer
Plains Garter Snake



Red Fox

Craig Jourdonnais



Marbled Godwit



Wilson's Phalarope

Chuck Carson, 2003

Trapline Photos



Trapline 1



Trapline 2



Trapline 3



Trapline 4



Trapline 5



Trapline 6



Trapline 7



Trapline 8



Trapline 9



Yucca

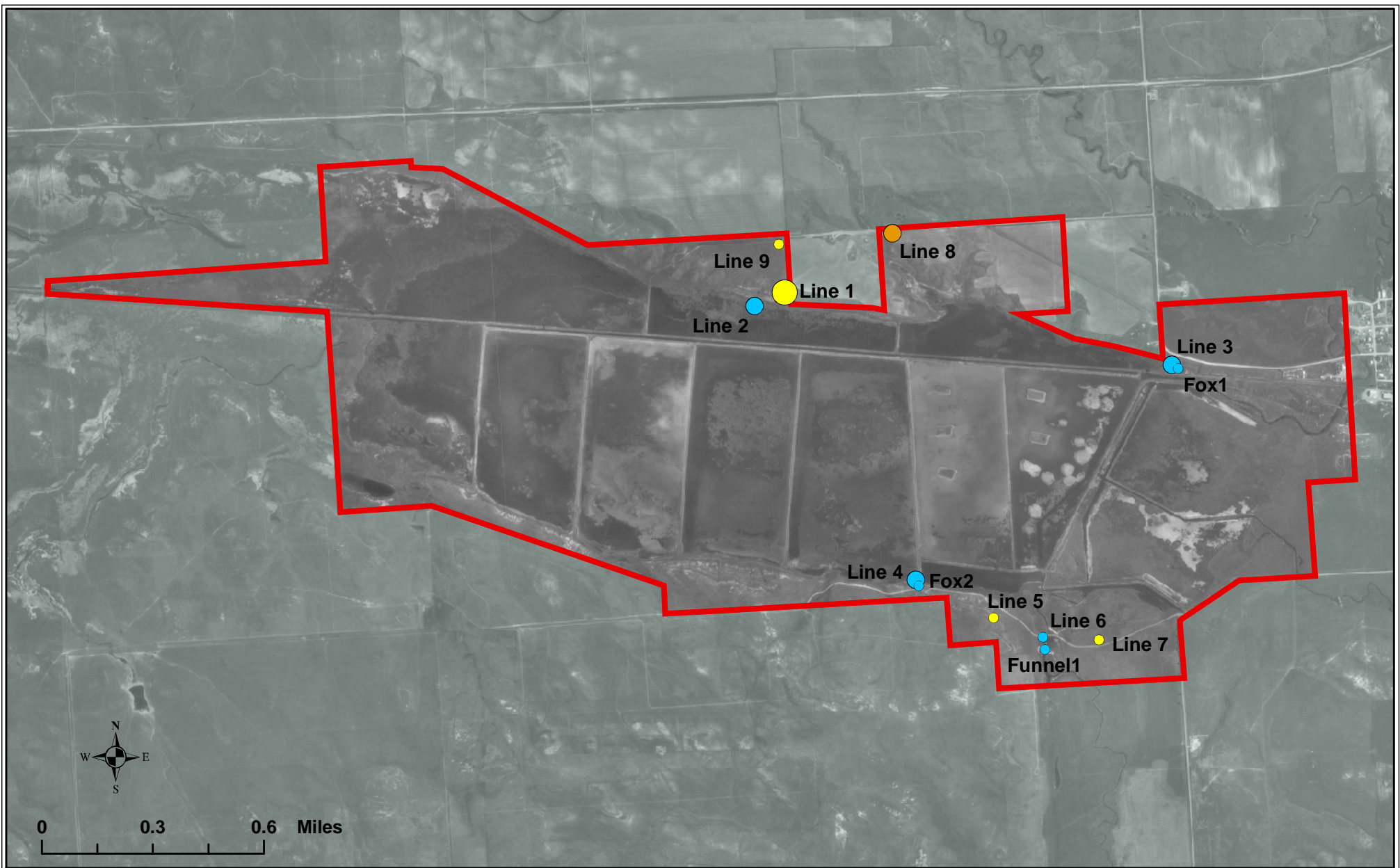


Figure 1:

Fox Lake WMA

Small Mammal Survey Site



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

Trapping Locations

General Landcover (Symbol color)

● Agriculture

● Barren / Badlands

● Broadleaf Forest

● Conifer Forest

● Grassland

* Not all landcover types were sampled at all sites.

● Riparian

● Shrub Grassland

Captures/100 trapnights (Symbol size)

* only calculated for trap lines

● 0 - 5

● >5 - 15

● >15

